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Paul Jedrzejewski, et al.
Application No.: 10/603,339
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PATENT

Figure 1 of Ershov et al. shows a chip having a solid support 1 having square cells 2 made of a gel separated by spaces 3. Figure 2 does not show a second chip that engages the chip of Figure 1 but rather a template or intermediate stage in the production of the Figure 1 chip. In Figure 2, a surface of aluminum 4 is photolithographed to provide a template for the laying down of the gel for the cells 2 (col. 3 lines 27-39). Gel is applied as a continuous layer over the template aluminum (col. 3 lines 40-45), and the chip is then irradiated by a laser beam or the like (col. 3 line 64 - col. 4 line 5) to remove the aluminum and any gel parts located above the aluminum layer, i.e., excess gel that will not form part of a cell.

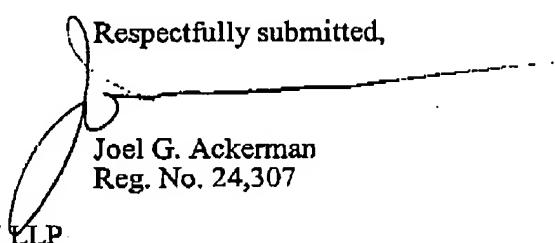
For this reason, that the reference does not disclose two chips that engage each other, the claims under examination are not anticipated by Ershov et al.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that all claims under examination in this application are allowable, and an early Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,


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